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Purple Trapping Begins

The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) will continue looking for signs of EAB this spring and summer by deploying an estimated 3,600 purple, sticky traps in ash trees across the state. This 'purple trap survey' for EAB is part of a nationwide effort sponsored by the US Department of Agriculture. Portions of 46 states will be included in the survey, using approximately 60,000 traps.

In addition to the DATCP trapping, a contractor working under a Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources grant plans to hang nearly three dozen traps at select state parks, forests and other high-risk areas.

"Scientists have been working to develop survey tools to help search for emerald ash borer since the beetle was first identified in Michigan in 2002," said Melody Walker, DATCP's Pest Survey and Control Section Chief. "This survey device represents the very latest tool that we have available in the battle against EAB."

The purple traps will be hung from ash trees by hooks, out of the reach of pedestrians or passers-by. The three-sided trap is about two feet tall and little more than a foot wide on each side. Each one is coated with a sticky substance that will ensnare the adult beetle. A Manuka oil lure will also be hung within each trap, to help draw nearby beetles to the tree.

In scientific studies, beetles were attracted to the color purple. The lure is similar to the chemical compounds that ash trees release when they are stressed. The combination appears to be appealing to the emerald ash borer.

Traps will be inspected after several weeks, with workers looking for adult emerald ash borer beetles and refreshing the lure. In the fall, when the beetles are no longer flying, the traps will be collected and reinspected for beetles.



DATCP forestry technician Stephanie Eastwood hangs a "purple, sticky trap" in an ash tree near Yellowstone Lake State Park in Lafayette County.

Approximately three-fourths of the traps in Wisconsin will be placed in a grid pattern in 19 southern and southeastern counties, including all or parts of Kenosha, Racine, Walworth, Rock, Green, Lafayette, Grant, Iowa, Dane, Jefferson, Waukesha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Washington, Dodge, Columbia, Sauk, Fond du Lac, and Sheboygan. Other locations in the state that are further away, but still have some risk for EAB introduction, will also be surveyed.

Seventeen DATCP seasonal employees began setting out the traps near the end of April.

Don't Move Firewood
It's the most important thing you can do to fight EAB
Help keep Wisconsin free of emerald ash borer

DATCP Hires EAB Coordinator

Wisconsin native and Wilmette, Illinois village forester Jennifer Statz takes over as DATCP's EAB Program Manager.



Jennifer Statz, DATCP EAB Program Manager

Statz is a graduate of UW - Stevens Point with a BS in urban forestry and is an ISA certified arborist. She's worked the last six years in Illinois as a municipal arborist, most recently for the Village of Wilmette as the Village Forester and EAB Project Manager. Statz has collaborated with a number of agencies to combat EAB including the Illinois Department of Agriculture, the Society of Municipal Arborists, the US Forest Service and USDA APHIS, assisting with research efforts to find efficient strategies to mitigate the effects of EAB in northeastern Illinois.

As the EAB Program Coordinator, Statz will be responsible for leading the work plan development for all EAB related activities, work with survey specialists to develop and implement survey plans and, among other duties, serve as the interagency liaison for program operations.

Statz replaces Adrian Barta who returns to his former position as a DATCP field plant pathologist.

Trap Tree Survey On Hold

The fall and winter survey for emerald ash borer involving felled and peeled ash trees is taking the summer off. DATCP crews completed approximately 808 trees as part of the survey that began in the fall of 2007 and ended in early May of 2008. Nearly 500 trees remain standing, targeted for felling and peeling before the end of the year.

Workers encountered a number of obstacles this winter that made it impossible to complete the survey. Weather was a big problem throughout the entire season, but the team also lost two colleagues to other jobs and was plagued with vehicle problems that kept some workers in the shop almost as much as they were in the field.

Work crews are now in the process of deploying nearly 4,000 sticky traps across the state as part of the summer EAB survey.

The table on the next page details the number of trees that have been felled in the target counties, and what trees remain to come down before the end of the year. The numbers are only approximate until the final tallying has taken place at the completion of the survey.

Wisconsin EAB Program Newsletter Returns

The Wisconsin Emerald Ash Borer e-Newsletter debuts this spring in a new format and with a renewed commitment to timely and consistent publication.

For now, the e-Newsletter will be distributed and posted on the EAB Portal on a quarterly basis. Should EAB be found in Wisconsin, the creation of the newsletter will likely happen on a monthly basis.

Please submit comments or contributions to the newsletter via e-mail at eab@datcp.state.wi.us.

You may reproduce any portion of this newsletter with proper credit to the Wisconsin Emerald Ash Borer Program.

To sign up for your own e-mailed copy, send a request to the e-mail address above, with "subscribe newsletter" in the subject field.

Wisconsin Emerald Ash Borer Program
Tree Sampling Survey Status
2007 – 2008

| County | Completed | Remaining |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| Adams | 0 | 7 |
| Barron | 2 | 4 |
| Brown | 143 | 0 |
| Calumet | 2 | 0 |
| Columbia | 4 | 26 |
| Dane | 87 | 0 |
| Dodge | 0 | 21 |
| Dunn | 0 | 8 |
| Douglas | 1 | 0 |
| Fond du Lac | 0 | 11 |
| Grant | 0 | 2 |
| Green | 0 | 18 |
| Iowa | 0 | 12 |
| Jefferson | 0 | 10 |
| Juneau | 0 | 28 |
| Kenosha | 69 | 0 |
| Kewaunee | 108 | 0 |
| La Crosse | 0 | 8 |
| Manitowoc | 1 | 70 |
| Marquette | 2 | 4 |
| Milwaukee | 91 | 0 |
| Monroe | 0 | 4 |
| Oconto | 3 | 1 |
| Outagamie | 44 | 0 |
| Ozaukee | 2 | 62 |
| Racine | 62 | 0 |
| Richland | 2 | 0 |
| Rock | 54 | 0 |
| Sauk | 24 | 0 |
| Shawano | 3 | 0 |
| Sheboygan | 0 | 76 |
| Walworth | 61 | 0 |
| Washington | 12 | 78 |
| Waukesha | 11 | 45 |
| Waupaca | 3 | 0 |
| Waushara | 0 | 4 |
| Winnebago | 17 | 0 |
| | | |
| TOTAL | 808 | 499 |

Signs and Symptoms of EAB

With summer underway, now is the time to start looking for signs and symptoms of EAB. Any of these common symptoms may be a sign of an infested tree, or that something else is wrong with the ash. If you see any of these signs, or suspect that your ash tree is infested, please call the Wisconsin Emerald Ash Borer Program Hotline at 1-800-462-2803. A DATCP or DNR inspector may need to look at your tree to help determine if EAB is present. The presence of all of these symptoms may be the result of EAB infestation, or the tree could be suffering from drought or any number of ash diseases or injury. A sample of the EAB adult or larvae is necessary to make a positive identification.



D-Shaped Exit



S-Shaped Gallery



Crown Thinning or Dying



Epicormic Sprouting



Bark Splitting

Wisconsin Emerald Ash Borer Program

Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources,
University of Wisconsin Madison & Extension, US Forest Service, USDA-APHIS

www.EmeraldAshBorer.wi.gov

1-800-462-2803